

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-17. (Cancelled)

Claim 18. (New) A method for reducing plasma cholesterol of an animal or maintaining a reduced cholesterol level in an animal or reducing LDL:HDL cholesterol ratio in plasma of an animal comprising orally administering to an animal in need thereof, an oral dosage composition comprising an effective amount of microbial lipids.

Claim 19. (New) A method for increasing plasma docosahexanoic acid (DHA) in an animal comprising orally administering to an animal in need thereof, an oral dosage composition comprising microbial lipids.

Claim 20. (New) A method for achieving an immuno-protectant effect in an animal comprising orally administering to an animal in need thereof, an oral dosage composition comprising microbial lipids.

Claim 21. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 18, wherein said animal is a human.

Claim 22. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 19, wherein said animal is a human.

Claim 23. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 20, wherein said animal is a human.

Claim 24. (New) The method as claimed Claim 18, wherein said animal is a fish.

Claim 25. (New) The method as claimed Claim 19, wherein said animal is a fish.

Claim 26. (New) The method as claimed Claim 20, wherein said animal is a fish.

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Claim 27. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 24, wherein said fish is a juvenile fish.

Claim 28. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 25, wherein said fish is a juvenile fish.

Claim 29. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 26, wherein said fish is a juvenile fish.

Claim 30. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 18, wherein said microbial lipids are methanotrophic bacterial lipids.

Claim 31. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 19, wherein said microbial lipids are methanotrophic bacterial lipids.

Claim 32. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 20, wherein said microbial lipids are methanotrophic bacterial lipids.

Claim 33. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 18, wherein said composition is an encapsulated composition.

Claim 34. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 19, wherein said composition is an encapsulated composition.

Claim 35. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 20, wherein said composition is an encapsulated composition.

Claim 36. (New) A composition comprising at least 80% wt. microbial lipid, and comprising at least 10 g of said microbial lipid.

Claim 37. (New) The composition as claimed in Claim 36, wherein said lipid is phosphatidylethanolamine.

Claim 38. (New) The composition as claimed in Claim 37, wherein said phosphatidylethanolamine is a phosphatidylethanolamine having C_{16:0} and/or C_{16:1} fatty acid side chains.

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Claim 39. (New) A foodstuff comprising a microbial lipid extract and a nutrient component.

Claim 40. (New) The foodstuff as claimed in Claim 39, wherein said nutrient component is of non-microbial origin.

Claim 41. (New) A pharmaceutical or nutraceutical composition comprising a microbial lipid extract together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.

Claim 42. (New) A food product harvested from an animal fed with a microbial lipid.

Claim 43. (New) The food product as claimed in Claim 42, wherein said food product is an avian egg.